

Finance, Real Estate and Insurance

World of Finance

THE CROP SUPPLY

All Europe—neutrals as well as warring countries—has been placed upon rationing to take out supplies until the new crop is harvested. The country entered the present crop year last July with 164,000,000 bushels of wheat carried over from the crop of 1915, and in 1916 produced 482,000,000 bushels of winter wheat and 158,000,000 of spring wheat; total supply 642,000,000. This year there will be practically no wheat carried over and the government's estimate upon the winter crop forecasts a yield of only 30,000,000. On this basis the spring wheat crop must be 214,000,000 bushels larger than last year in order to give us a wheat supply equal to what we will export and consume in the crop year now closing. This is an alarming outlook. The spring wheat crop is notoriously subject to weather conditions. More spring wheat should be sown, but it is doubtful if the wheat shortage can be made up. Other food crops must be grown to meet the deficiency.

This country is now at war, and our allies, Belgium, Great Britain, France and Italy are dependent upon us for food. They will have no reserves and must have more from us in the coming year than in the past, or they will not be able to feed all their people. Added to the appeals of starving humanity will be military reasons making it impossible for us to put an embargo upon the exportation of food. We must divide what we grow this year with these countries, and with the neutral countries—Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Spain—which do not self-sustain in grain supplies. And not only must we supply enough to keep these peoples from starving, but enough to cover the heavy losses at sea which result from the submarine warfare. If we grow no more food than we did last year—and so far the outlook is for less—there is danger of a food situation such as the world in modern times has not dreamed of. No other country has the resources in land and population to meet this emergency but the United States. There is no business upon which all other business depends as upon this of growing a big crop in America this year. And the work must be started immediately. There is no time to wait on organizations from outside. The emergency can be met only by spontaneous action in every state, county and school district, forming local organizations.

Picture in your mind what conditions will be in our own cities next winter, and of the effect upon all industry, if food supplies are scarcer and dearer than they are now. It must be impressed upon every body that no wage advances or regulation of prices can add one bushel of wheat or potatoes to the supply after the growing season is over. The country is aroused, but mere alarm will not accomplish results. There must be organized personal work, headed in every locality by men of force and influence. The Governor of Iowa has called for the enlistment of boys from 13 to 18 to work either in town gardens or upon the farms. President Wilson says that these boys will be "Soldiers of the Commissary." There are fine possibilities in this idea. The boys may be brought to feel that they are serving their country as truly as their older brothers who enlist in army or navy; and the girls should have a chance as well. They should have a medal to keep as life-long evidence of their service in the last great war—let us hope—of the world's history. Some banks are arranging for garden plots for all their clerks. Industrial employers are doing likewise, and will provide seeds and instruction. Organized work of this kind with suitable supervision will be most effective. Every employer in your locality should be waited upon by a committee, and invited to cooperate in this manner. Although it is of course desirable to increase the farm crops, and especially the spring wheat crop, it may be that the best chance to increase the food supply is by the intensive cultivation of garden tracts in and adjacent to towns, where labor additional to the regular farm supply can be secured for growing potatoes, beans, onions, etc. Each community is able to go ahead upon this work without help from outside. The agency of result will depend upon the efficiency of the local organizations. The Connecticut Committee of Food Supply, created by Gov. Holcomb to consider means by which this state can produce the largest crops possible and utilize its lands to the utmost, has opened an office in Hartford and the members have begun working out the program which will be advanced to the people of the state. The committee was named by Governor Holcomb under the power given him by the emergency law recently passed by the Legislature. Under this the governor may take any action he considers necessary to meet the situation caused by America's entry into the war. The members of the committee are Joseph W. Alsop of Avon, Clifford I. Stoddard of Woodbridge, Charles T. Davis of Middletown, Robert W. Perkins of Norwich, Wilson H. Lee of Orange, Robert Scott of Salisbury, George M. Landers of New Britain, William C. Cheney of Manchester and John P. Elton of Waterbury.

The committee's one aim at present is to devise ways and means whereby Connecticut's food production this year may be increased to the highest possible point. The methods by which this will be accomplished are now being worked out and the first part of the committee's program will be announced within a few days.

Many individuals and organizations have taken up plans for increasing the food crop this year. There are home garden committees in many Con-

necticut towns and cities. The plans of the governor's committee on food supply will in no way interfere with the factors which are already working for the same purpose. The effort will be to co-ordinate all work along these lines, to encourage the efforts of individuals and groups, and to help any man or any organization which has a plan for increasing Connecticut's food production.

The office of the food committee is on the second floor of the Connecticut Mutual Building in Hartford. Sufficient space has been leased for the committee's offices and rooms for gatherings of small groups of interested persons. The telephone number is Charter 3520, Hartford, and the members of the committee can be reached at the offices at any hour. "We want the co-operation of every man, woman and child in Connecticut," said a statement issued by the committee to-day. "We want suggestions, we want help. We need the cordial support of the entire state to put through this great undertaking which means so much to Connecticut in the past the state has produced not more than one-fifth of the food it has consumed, and we have had to rely upon the surplus of other states. This year that surplus will be small. Our only hope is to utilize the land of our own state to the utmost. We must use every means possible to increase the state's production of food. Every person who can do anything toward that end—should do it, and may be assured of the cordial co-operation of the Committee."

Workers Pay Huge Sums For Industrial Insurance

Hartford, April 17.—"Last year working men and women in Connecticut alone paid to three insurance companies operated for profit, approximately \$4,000,000 for industrial insurance. These companies paid back to policyholders only slightly more than \$1,400,000."

This statement was made by Senator John H. Barnes to-day, in describing conditions in Connecticut. "Under health insurance, as proposed in the bill now before the legislature," he declared, "these working people would have received, without any greater expense to them, not only burial insurance, but also medical, nursing, and hospital care and medicines and appliances, and in addition to all that, two-thirds of wages during sickness, up to a maximum of 26 weeks in each year."

This desirable result, according to Senator Barnes, can be secured only by the economy of the universal system with contributions by the employers and the state, without maintaining an expensive force of agents, and without permitting the insurance companies to profit in the sickness of the workers.

New York Stock Exchange Quotations

Reported over the private wires of T. L. Watson & Co., Bankers and Brokers, Corner Main and John Sts., Bridgeport, Conn. Members of New York Stock Exchange.

April 17, 1:30 p. m.

Am. Beet Sugar	93 3/4
Am. Car & Fdy.	93 3/4
Am. Can	44 3/4
Am. Hide & Lea. Pfd.	61 1/4
Am. Locomotive	66 3/4
Am. Smelt. & Re. Co.	98 1/2
Am. Tel. & Tele.	123
Am. Woolen	49 1/4
Am. Zinc	33 3/4
Alaska Gold	7 3/4
Atl. Gulf & W. Indies	100
Atch. T. & S. Fe	102 3/4
Anacosta Copper	78 3/4
Baldwin Loco.	53 1/4
Baltimore & Ohio	76 3/4
Bethlehem Steel	132 3/4
Butte & Superior	46 3/4
Canadian Pacific	161
Calif. Petroleum	21
Cent. Leather Co.	83 3/4
Chi. M. & St. Paul	80
Chi. R.R. Island & Pac.	47
Chile Copper	22 3/4
Chino	53
Chesapeake & Ohio	59 3/4
Consolidated Gas	112
Col. Fuel & Iron	47
Corn Products	23 3/4
Crucible Steel	61
Cuban Cane Sugar	46
Den. & Rio G.	13
Del. Hudson	121 1/4
Distillers Securities	14 3/4
Erie	27 3/4
Erie 1st Pfd.	41 3/4
General Electric	164 3/4
Goodrich Co.	50
Gt. Northern Ore	30 3/4
Green Cananea	41
Illinois Central	103
Inspiration Copper	55
International Nickel	41 3/4
Interborough Cons.	26 3/4
Inter. Mer. Marine	77 3/4
Inter. Mer. Marine Pfd.	77 3/4
International Paper	39 3/4
Kennecott Copper	42 3/4
Lackawanna Steel	82 3/4
Maxwell Motors	48 3/4
Mexican Petroleum	87 3/4
Southern Railway	57 3/4
Middle Steel	41 3/4
Miami Copper	47 3/4
Nevada Cons.	22 3/4
Norfolk & Western	129
Northern Pacific	103 3/4
N. Y. Central	94 3/4
N. Y. N. H. & H.	44
N. Y. Ont. & West.	23 3/4
Pittsburgh Coal	47 3/4
Pennsylvania	22 3/4
Ray Cons.	22 3/4
Reading	95 3/4
Repub. Iron & Steel	78 3/4
Ry. Steel Spring	48 3/4
Sinclair Oil	56 3/4
Sloss Sheffield & Iron	53 3/4
Southern Pacific	93 3/4
Southern Railway	28
Southern Railway pfd.	58
Studebaker Corp'n	60
Texas Oil	211 1/4
Union Pacific	137
United Cigar Stores	100 3/4

U. S. Ind. Alcohol	108 3/4
U. S. Rubber	68
U. S. Steel	110 3/4
Utah Copper	107 3/4
Wabash	11 3/4
Wabash pfd. A	49
Wabash pfd. B	25 3/4
West. Union Tel.	95 3/4
Westinghouse Electric	48 3/4
Western Maryland	21 3/4
Willys Overland	31 3/4
Am. Zinc	32 3/4

BOSTON STOCKS

Adventure	2 3/4
Cal. & Arizona	77
Cal. & Hecla	54 1/2
Centennial	19
Copper Range	60 3/4
East Butte	12 3/4
Hancock	15
Indiana	2 3/4
Isle Royale	30
Lake	11 3/4
Mohawk	8 1/4
North Butte	23
North Lake	1 1/4
Oscoda	80 3/4
Pond Creek	23
Quincy	36
Saint Mary's	29
Shannon	3 1/4
Superior & Boston	5 1/4
U. S. Smelting	50
Utah Apex	2 3/4
Wolverine	43

STOCK MARKET

New York, April 17.—Opening—

Important stocks were under further pressure at the opening of today's market, declines ranging from material fractions to a point in coppers, Mexican Petroleum, Central Leather, American Locomotive, Industrial Alcohol and Studebaker. Railroads were irregular with the exception of Reading and Union Pacific, which gained a point each. Shipments were steady to firm on short covering. Marine preferred made an extreme advance of 1 3/8 points, with a point for Atlantic, Gulf and West Indies.

Noon.—The forenoon resolved itself into a contest between an aggressive short interest and purchasers on the long account, the latter buying freely at lower levels. Shipments were again the center of attack, Marine preferred losing 2 3/4 points with 1 1/4 for the common and 3 1/4 for Atlantic, Gulf and West Indies. United States Steel lost almost a point with reversals of one to three points for less active industrials. Railroads were dull and yielded on small offerings, but strengthened before midday when urgent short covering wiped out the more important losses. Bonds were heavy.

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120 acre farm with brook and watered pastures, tillage land machine mowed, will cut 1,600 cords of wood and about 50,000 feet of timber, orchard of 60 fruit trees, good ten room house, barn 30x40, sugar orchard of 500 trees, 4 cows, 4 head of young stock, 2 horses, 24 hens, mowing machine, horse rake, harrows and cultivator, wagons and harness, 12,500 buckets, school within 500 feet of farm. Price only \$1,500. Part cash. Call and see.

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One, two and three family houses, any section of city you want; easy terms; also lots, farms and factory sites, all bargains.

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Goodrich Co. 50
Gt. Northern Ore 30 3/4
Green Cananea 41
Illinois Central 103
Inspiration Copper 55
International Nickel 41 3/4
Interborough Cons. 26 3/4
Inter. Mer. Marine 77 3/4
Inter. Mer. Marine Pfd. 77 3/4
International Paper 39 3/4
Kennecott Copper 42 3/4
Lackawanna Steel 82 3/4
Maxwell Motors 48 3/4
Mexican Petroleum 87 3/4
Southern Railway 57 3/4
Middle Steel 41 3/4
Miami Copper 47 3/4
Nevada Cons. 22 3/4
Norfolk & Western 129
Northern Pacific 103 3/4
N. Y. Central 94 3/4
N. Y. N. H. & H. 44
N. Y. Ont. & West. 23 3/4
Pittsburgh Coal 47 3/4
Pennsylvania 22 3/4
Ray Cons. 22 3/4
Reading 95 3/4
Repub. Iron & Steel 78 3/4
Ry. Steel Spring 48 3/4
Sinclair Oil 56 3/4
Sloss Sheffield & Iron 53 3/4
Southern Pacific 93 3/4
Southern Railway 28
Southern Railway pfd. 58
Studebaker Corp'n 60
Texas Oil 211 1/4
Union Pacific 137
United Cigar Stores 100 3/4

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TAXES, GRAND LIST OF 1916

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the City of Bridgeport, that the taxes on the grand list of 1916 are now due and payable at the Tax Collector's Office, Room 6, City Hall. The undersigned will be at the Collector's Office as above, on May 1st, 1917 and daily thereafter, Sunday excepted, from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. and Saturday from 9 a. m. to 12 m. for the purpose of collecting said taxes. After June 1st, as required by law, interest at the rate of three-quarters of one per cent, will be added to all unpaid taxes and the same on the first of each succeeding month.
HOWARD F. SMITH, Collector.

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APPLY TO
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The Safety of Paying By Check
Paying by check means all around safety in money matters.
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TO RENT—Private garage on Stratford avenue. Enquire 150 Elm St. U 11 *t

FOR RENT—Five or less furnished rooms or will sell the same at a bargain. Main St. Address Box D, Care of Farmer.

TO RENT—A pleasant room flat, all improvements, \$30. Adults. Call 1305 North Ave. A 8 *t

TO RENT—Residence on Golden Hill recently renovated. Store on Main St. Store on East Main. Edwin Fraunberger, 264 State St., Barnum 2446.

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